

# FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**December 19, 2016**

### ***First Nations Summit Congratulates NStQ on Initialling Agreement-in-Principle***

***Coast Salish Territory/Vancouver*** – The First Nations Summit (FNS) Task Group wishes to congratulate the Northern Secwepemc te Qelmucw (NStQ) on initialling their Agreement-in-Principle (AiP) with representatives of the Governments of British Columbia and Canada on December 15, 2016.

This is a historic step for the four Northern Shuswap First Nations of the NStQ Treaty Group who have been negotiating a modern-day treaty with the provincial and federal governments since 1993.

“We want to commend the NStQ on the years of hard work that have gone into reaching the significant milestone of initialling an Agreement-in-Principle,” said Robert Phillips, First Nations Summit Task Group. “The successful ratification of a NStQ Treaty will benefit community members and provide a prosperous, self-governing future.”

“We applaud the Northern Shuswap First Nations community members for staying engaged in the treaty process and achieving this significant step towards a NStQ Treaty,” said Cheryl Casimer, First Nations Summit Task Group.

The NStQ Treaty Group will now move into Final Negotiations (Stage Five) of the six-stage treaty process. Once a Final Agreement is reached, it will be voted on by NStQ membership.

-30-

*The First Nations Summit speaks on behalf of First Nations involved in treaty negotiations in British Columbia. The Summit is also a NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Further background information on the Summit may be found at [www.fns.bc.ca](http://www.fns.bc.ca).*

#### **For further information:**

Grand Chief Edward John, FNS Political Executive:	778-772-8218
Cheryl Casimer, FNS Political Executive:	778-875-2157
Robert Phillips, FNS Political Executive:	778-875-4463
Robert Moraes, Treaty Negotiator, NStQ Treaty Society:	250-392-7361 ext:224

